## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-06** 

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1973 INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

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DEPT FOR EUR/EX

BRUSSELS FOR RSO

FRANKFURT FOR CO, CO. A

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: AFSP, ASEC

SUBJECT: MSG T/O INCREASE

REF: A) STATE 097113 B) FRANKFURT 3742 C) THE HAGUE 2289

1. ON BASIS OF RMO/RSO RECOMMENDATION TO EFFECT THAT CHANCERY MSG COVERAGE BE EXPANDED TO 24 HOURS WATCH, EMBASSY REQUESTED MSG T/O INCREASE BY ONE ADDITIONAL MARINE. IN MAY VIA REF. A, EMBASSY WAS ADVISED THAT T/O INCREASE REQUEST HAD BEEN DENIED DUE TO SIGNIFICANT COSTS INVOLVED. IN JUNE, EMBASSY RECEIVED VIA REF. B, NOTIFICATION OF ASSIGNMENT OF SGT. G.C. BENSON AS T/O INCREASE. PURSUANT TO THIS INFORMATION AND, UPON ARRIVAL OF SGT. BENSON, EMBASSY ADJUSTED CURRENT MSG QUARTERS TO PROVIDE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL MARINE AND IMPLEMENTED 24 HOUR WATCH.

2. WITH RECENT TRANSFER OF SGT. UIAGALELEI AND CONCURRENT NOTIFICATION THAT HE WOULD NOT BE REPLACED, WE ARE NOW STAFFING 24 HOUR WATCH WITH 4 (FOUR) WATCHSTANDERS, AN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OBLIGATION THAT PLACES AN INORDINATE BURDEN ON THE MSG

AND INTERFERES WITH CONDUCT OF PRESCRIBED TRAINING, UBT IS DETERMINED NECESSARY AS WE CAN NOT DISCONTINUE 24 HOUR WATCH AT THIS TIME.

- 3. EMBASSY AGREES WHOLEHEARTEDLY WITH RMO/RSO RECOMMEND-ATION THAT 24 HOUR COVERAGE IS ESSENTIAL. THE RECEIPT OVER THE PAST FEW WEEKS OF A NUMBER OF "BOMB THREAT" TELEPHONE CALLS AND TWO SMALL DEMONSTRATIONS FOLLOWING THE CHILEAN REVOLUTION RE-EMPHASIZES THE NECESSITY FOR MSG CONTROL OF ACCESS TO THE CHANCERY AT ALL TIMES, IF EFFECTIVE SECURITY OF THE PREMISES IS TO BE MAINTAINED. GIVEN CURRENT SITUATION, EMBASSY BELIEVES IT IMPRUDENT TO DELAY T/O INCREASE UNTIL SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IS RECEIVED. EMBASSY IS WILLING TO ADJUST PRESENT MSG RESIDENCE TO ACCOMMODATE ADDITIONAL MARINE AND HAS ALREADY REARRANGED RECEPTION AREA TO PROVIDE FOR MSG DURING DUTY HOURS. WE CAN CONTINUE THIS ARRANGMENT UNTIL FUNDS FOR APPROPRIATE PERMANENT ACCOMMODATIONS AND MODIFICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE. THERE REMAINS ONLY THE COST OF SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE FOR THE ADDITIONAL MARINE WHICH CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO AN IMMEDIATE MSG T/O INCREASE. (A CONSIDERABLE REDUCTION OVER ESTIMATE REPORTED IN REF. C.)
- 4. EMBASSY BELIEVES IT IMPERATIVE TO RETAIN 24 HOUR COVERAGE BUT CANNOT CONTINUE SUCH COVERAGE FOR AN INDEFINITE PERIOD WITH ONLY 4 (FOUR) WATCHSTANDERS. IN VIEW OF THE SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN COSTS DESCRIBED ABOVE AND DEMONSTRATED NEED FOR 24 HOUR COVERAGE, EMBASY URGES THE DEPARTMENT'S EARLY FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION OF ITS REQUEST FOR MSG T/O INCREASE OF ONE MARINE. TANGUY

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